Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, lines 1-9 with the following amended paragraph:

Referring now to Figure 2A, the bracket 10 of Figure 1 is shown in perspective, isolated from the vehicle 12 of Figure 1. In Figure 2A, the bracket 10 is presented with the support foot 60 facing outward. The support foot 60 includes a mounting bore 80 for mounting the bracket 10 to a structure such as a vehicular trim panel. This embodiment of the energy-absorbing bracket 10 of the invention is configured to receive a force 86 (represented by an arrow) on the support foot 60. In this bracket 10, the support foot is positioned substantially opposite of the anchor plate 40. In alternate brackets according to the invention, the anchor plate 40 may be placed adjacent to the support foot 60, with the extension arm 52 being relocated. In some brackets, the function of the anchor plate 40 may conceivably be assumed by the support foot 60.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, lines 1-19 with the following amended paragraph:

Referring now to Figure 2C a perspective view of the energy-absorbing bracket 10 of Figure 2A is shown rotated to present an alternate view of the bracket 10. In addition, the bracket 10 is shown in its supporting configuration, the translating arm 64 having displaced such that the foot 68 abuts the locking ridge 76 at an interface 74. This view of the energy-absorbing bracket 10 places the anchor plate 40, portions of the support foot 60 including a mounting bore 80 for mounting the bracket 10 to a structure such as a vehicular trim panel, and the interface 74 in the foreground. First, the anchor plate 40 is shown to include features such as attachment bores 42 to allow the bracket 10 to be installed in a vehicle. One of ordinary skill in the art will recognize that many other suitable mechanisms and means for attaching the bracket 10 to a vehicle are known in the art, and as a result, may be integrated into the bracket 10 within the scope of the invention. The anchor plate 40 may further include a member for engaging the support foot 60

when the bracket 10 is deflected from its original configuration to its supportive configuration. In Figures 1-2D, the energy-absorbing bracket 10 is shown to include locking ridge 76 projecting from the anchor plate 40. One of ordinary skill in the art would understand many viable alternate configurations for the interface 74 of the locking ridge 76 and the foot 68. In other configurations of the energy-absorbing brackets of the invention, the support foot 60 may be configured to engage a surface such as the anchor plate 40 or a surface of the vehicle to which the bracket 10 is mounted in order for the bracket 10 to assume a more supportive configuration.